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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2014 **Hungering for**

Smokin' Buddha? A popular Port Colborne restaurant is resonating with Food Network fans Page 2

Switch thrown on spectacular displays

The Winter Festival of Lights is ready to dazzle you Page 8

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IEWS INPORT

For news updated daily see www.inportnews.ca

■ SALVATION ARMY: Christian organization can't afford to pay help while helping the less fortunate

Salvation sought in kettle volunteers

QMI Agency Niagara

The Salvation Army needs salvation itself as it rolls out its iconic Christmas Kettle Campaign, Unable to any longer pay peo-ple to fingle bells at kettles set up at shopping malls and grocery stores, as minimum wage continues to escalate, the Welland and Port Colbome unit is looking for several more volunteers so that the donations it does

receive this season end up sup-

porting the people who most need help. "Over the past years, we've paid more people than we

wanted to," said executive director Greg Warkentin, adding they were far greater in number than the people who were content with just giving of their time to help others.

He said word got out about the paid help as volunteer numbers dwindled - something that may make potential donors reconsider dropping a buck or two, or more, into a kettle. The local unit has more than a thousand two-hour slots to fill at 10 kettle locations in Welland, four in Port Colborne and one in

Because of the shortage of volunteers, Warkentin said, it may be looking at concentrating its fundraising efforts Thursdays

to Saturdays.

"We are very pleased with the volunteers who have come out

As of Saturday morning, 95 slots had been filled, said area kettle co-ordinator MistyAnn The Welland-Port Colborne campaign kicked off Saturday

already well before the 'Christ-

mas scason," he said.

morning at Seaway Mall with an 18-piece brass band from the Salvation Army Church in Cambridge.

See VOLUNTEERS on Page 2



Dan Millar, area public relations director for The Salvation Army, welcomes donations during the launch of the local Christmas Kettle Campaign, Saturday at Seaway Mall.



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UPFRONT

BOOKS: You Gotta Eat Here Too! profiles Port Colborne restaurant



Kevin Echlin, left, owner of The Smokin' Buddha restaurant in Port Colborne, is pictured with TV host John Catuccid uring a summer 2012 filming for Food Network Canada's You Gotta Eat Here! The restaurant is in the spotlight again, featured in Catuccid sitest book, You Gotta Eat Here Too!

Readers could be hungering for Smokin' Buddha

GREG FURMINGER OMI Agency Niagara

When a Port Colhorne restaurant made its TV dehut last year, viewers ate it up. Foodies started to crave The Smokin' Buddha after it was featured last year on You

Gotta Eat Here!

Food Network Canada star John Catucci and his crew filmed for episode of You Gotta Eat Here! in the summer of 2012. The segment was first aired May 2013 in Season 2 Episode 25 and profiled the restaurant's peanut curry. norean neer noodies, iampops and mango salad.

Things could pick up again for owner Kevin Echlin Echlin and his staff. The restaurant occupying the old trainstation off King St. is getting more mention in Catucci's latest hook. You Gotta Eat

Here Tool More of Canada's Favourite Hometown Restaurants and Hidden Gems (Harper Collins Canada; ISBN: 9781443429481, S24.99). A presser dished out by the publishing company says in his latest read, penned with Michael Vlessides, Catucci

continues his quest to find one-of-a-kind hidden treasures and mouthwatering dishes from across Canada. In You Gotta Eat Here Tool Catucci discovers the characters hehind neighhourhood institutions, and what makes each restaurant and their signature food so great.

The You Gotta Eat Here! episode featuring The Smokin' Buddha can he viewed on the foodnetwork.ca website here: http://hit.ly/lva8ZBc.

> greg.furminger@sunmedia.ca Twitter: @GreeAtTheTrib



You Gotta Eat Here Too!

■ VOLUNTEERS

Money put in a Port Colborne kettle will stay there

From Dogo 1

It's Welland goal this year is again \$80,000 — and Warkentin is excited that a new recruit making cold calls will he ahle to get support not only for reaching that figure hut attracting help.

Last year Welland raised ahout \$78,000 of an \$80,000

Warkentin helieves the local 2013 figures may have a come up short hecause people don't carry cash like they used to, relying instead on dehit and charge cards when shopping.

Still, faithful Salvation Army supporters continue to come by its office or mail in their support.

In Welland, donations support such Salvation Army programs as the Niagara Mohile Outreach Unit, its food hank at Seaway Mall and those tled to Christmas. Its food hank last year fed 8,000 people and there's a growing demand.

"The money you put in that kettle stays in the community where the kettle is," Warkentin said

"This is a national campaign that stays local." Last year The Salvation Army in St. Catharines, which also represents Thorold and Niagara-on-the-Lake, reported raising \$230,000 of a \$280,000 goal,

VOLUNTEERS

There are more than 900 two-hour kettle slots remaining to be filled. Call Welland area kettle co-ordinator MistyAnn McMillan at 905-714-2115.

a figure that was reached in

Fort Erie — also overseen hy Warkentin — met
dits \$55,000 goal in 2013,
swhile Salvation Army Niagara Orchard Community
Church in Niagara Falls met
tits \$85,000 target.

In its 123rd year, in 2013
the Christmas Kettle Campaign nationally collected
more than \$21 million in
donations at more than
2,000 kettle locations — up
2% from 2012, according to
the Christian organization's
Canadian website.

Donors can also support The Salvation Army through Fillthe Kettle.com, which allows individuals to host their own Christmas Kettle online, and ask friends and family to give. Almost \$144,000 was raised that way nationally last year.

— with QMI Agency Niagara files

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EDUCATION

Niagara College gets \$4.2M for innovation centre expansion

DAN DAKIN OMI Agency Niagara

Niagara College's research and innovation centre is about to get even more innovative. The school was given

a \$4.2-million grant from the provincial government last Wednesday to build a 1,350-square-metre (15,000-square-foot) expansion at its Rankin Technology Centre in Welland.

The new space will be a permanent facility for the school's advanced manufacturing innovation centre, which provides research and development for Niagara businesses that may not otherwise be able to access it.

"The nature of advance manufacturing requires we have state-of-the-art facilities with high-tech equipment that local small- and mediumsized enterprises can access," said the school's president.

This funding will allow us to build a facility that is designed from the view of 'how can we stimulate more iobs and attract more companies to set up in the Niagara region, and in particular in

Dan Patterson

Welland?** The funding announcement was made by Reza Moridi. who is both Ontario's minister of training, colleges and universities and minister of

"It's good to see Niagara College is acting as a link between academia and industry. That's what the govern-

ment is encouraging," he said. Moridi said the collaboration with private industry helps the economy, while also providing students with real-world training and connections that can lead to jobs after graduation.

Patterson agreed. "Not only are we providing a highly-skilled workforce, but we're saving we can be the research and development arm of small- and mediumsized companies to allow them to be competitive," he said.

sion is expected to start in the spring and the goal is to have it ready for use by the fall of 2016. This will be the fourth expansion of the Rankin Technology Centre since it was built in 1998. The last major renovation took place in 2011, when an additional 1.902

feet) was added

dan.dakin@sunmedia.ca Twitter: @dandakinmedia



Niagara College researcher Costa Aza shows Reza Moridi, who is both Ontario's minister of

training, colleges and universities and minister of research and innovation, how to use a digital scanning machine at the school's advanced manufacturing innovation centre in Welland An artist's rendering of the \$4.2-million expansion planned for the Niagara College Advanced Wednesday. Manufacturing Innovation Centre at its Welland campus.





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welland tribune@sunmedia.ca John Tobon, Publisher, Print & Digital Peter Conradi, Managing Editor



I'VE BEEN THINKING

If it's Sunday morning, then we go to church

REV. THOMAS P. ARTH First Evangelical Lutheran Church

the time you read this I will have had a week of vacation, including the Sundays at the beginning and the end of the week off

I guess it's what has become known as a "staycation" since I didn't go away anywhere. I just stayed at home with my wife and kids. The kids maintained their regular routine of

school. I just had the week off from work. I found it really weird not going to church on those Sundays, especially since I live next door to the church and I heard the bells ringing to signal the beginning and end of the

worship services. Church has just always been a part of my life, and not just these past 12 years since it's been part of my job to be at church, Growing up, and even as an adult, it wasn't a spoken rule or anything but, unless you're on vacation or you're sick you go to church.

Now, by no means do I write any of this to lay a guilt trip on anyone. I'm just saving that church is a big part of my life and always has been, as regular a part of my life as going to school or going to work. If it's Sunday morning, then we go to church.

Part of a life of faith, it seems to me, is being part of a worshiping community. On those occasions (I get four Sundays off each year) when I do stay home I discover and understand that it's obviously easier to stay home, to sleep longer, to lounge around in pyjamas watching TV.

Sure it is. But does it feed your soul? I guess in some ways it can. But I don't think it feeds your soul and nourishes your spirit the way worshiping God, hearing the Gospel proclaimed, and sharing the Lord's Supper does.

And I've heard the accusation that the church is full of hypocrites. They say one thing and do another. They don't practice what they preach. That's certainly true to some extent. But the church never has been and never will be a place full of perfect people. There's a Lutheran church in Denver, Colorado that's called House for All Sinners and Saints. That's really an appropriate name

for every church, because nobody is really all one or the other, we're all a mixture of both. sinner and saint, all at the same time. Have I always liked everybody that was

part of my church, any of the churches I've belonged to?

Of course not. In any group there's going to be someone who rubs you the wrong way. Yes, some of them will be hypocrites. Some people can't help being annoying. Some haven't learned, and maybe never will learn, how to speak tactfully. I'll disagree with some people about a whole host of things. And I know that I'm not always going to be liked, I'll rub some people the wrong way, I'll be a hypocrite, annoying, tactless, and disagreeable.

But you know what? For every person that's sometimes a little difficult there are a whole host of wonderful, loving, faithful Christians there. And even the difficult ones aren't likely to be hard to get along with all the time. And I love all of them, the good and the bad, the friendly and the grumpy, the sinners and the saints. I may not always like them but I will always love them. And I've found that they

love me too, despite my sinfulness and faults. And you know, God intended for us to live in community, not to isolate ourselves. And in any community there will be some people you get along with and others you won't (but hopefully you'll tolerate them and come to love them). The Bible says that Christians are individuals in a community the way various body parts make up a whole person. Each has a role to play, not all of them the same, but none of them dispensable. There is no appendix in the Body of Christ. We need each other and when any are missing it's like we're incomplete.

So now my vacation is over. I will have been at home for those two Sundays hearing the bells ring as other people gathered to worship together and hear the word of God proclaimed. I'll be back at church, back to work, refreshed and ready to be among those lovable sinner-saints. I miss them when I'm away and I'm always glad to be back among them. I'm looking forward to Sunday. Why not make it part of your routine as well? I believe it will feed your soul and nourish your spirit.

Shipwrecks — C. de Baillon

For QMI Agency Niagara

n the early years of the St. Lawrence Seaway, small wooden as well as steel hulled ships from Quebec would come to the Great Lakes with cargos of pulpwood. One of these sailed for less than a year before becoming a total loss.

The vessel had been built at Montreal in 1928 and joined the Donnacona Paper Co. as Donnacona No. 2. The 44.23-metre-long vessel served the owners carrying pulpwood on a route between the St. Lawrence River communities of Sault au Mouton and Donnacona. The ship was repowered in 1942 with a new

320 brake horsepower engine and then the hull was rebuilt in 1954 and 55. Donnacona No. 2 was sold to the St. Simeon

Navigation Co. in 1959 and renamed Miron C. It waited a few years before coming into the Great Lakes but was an inland visitor in 1965 and again in 1967.

Another sale early in 1971 led to a new name of C. de Baillon and the ship is shown back on the Great Lakes in a photo by Alfred Sagon-King.



Pictured is the C. de Baillon.

Before the year was out, C. de Baillon was a total loss. It was wrecked by going aground at

Mont Louis on Nov. 15, 1971, and repairs could

not be justified. As a result, the vessel was broken up for scrap. Its running mate, Donnacona No. 3 has fared much better. At last count it had six subsequent names and was still sailing under the flag of Honduras as Carlos Felipe as late as 2003.

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■ DONORS: Rudi Kroeker is president of Whiting Equipment Canada

Welland businessman pledges \$1M to Brock University

OMI Agency Niagara Welland businessman

*My family and a sup-extremely pleased to be sup-Rudi Kroeker and his family are donating \$1 million toward Brock University's Cairns Family Health and Bioscience Research Complex. Kroeker, president and CEO of Whiting Equipment

Canada Inc., a designer and manufacturers of heavy industrial equipment, and his wife Yvette made their pledge through a gift of life insurance In recognition of their

vears of service to Brock, a news release said, the Cairns Complex atrium will be named the H.-Rudi Kroeker Family Atrium for the life of the building. "My family and I are

porters of Brock University Kroeker said, "We sincerely hope that the support we've provided to this facility will allow faculty, staff, students and entrepreneurs to excel in their fields, and pursue their research dreams - for all of our benefits."

Kroeker served on the university's board of trustees from 2001 to 2014, including three years as chair. It was during his time at the helm that the school broke ground for the Cairns Complex, in September 2009.

and CEO of Handling Specialty in Grimsby, oversees Whiting Transportation Corp. of Niagara Falls, N.Y., and Whiting Equipment Services Co. Ltd. He is chairman and CEO of Zhellang NAMAG Equipment Manufacturing Co. Ltd. in Tongxiang, P.R. China, and director of Swenson Technology

Kroeker is also chairman

"He has witnessed the workings of our institution first hand, and he is a believer when it comes to supporting students, innovation and community partnerships," Brock president Jack Lightstone said.

Inc. in Monee, Ill.

"This gift to the university will create a lasting legacy at Brock that will have a significant impact on faculty, staff and students in the many years to come."

The \$112-million Cairns Complex opened in 2012 houses 15,840 square metres of labs, purpose-built teaching and research space and cutting-edge facilities. It is home to leading Brock researchers in biotechnology, green chemistry, plant pathology and health and wellness. The facility also houses BioLinc, a business incubator to support startup businesses and innovative



Rudi Kroeker, president and CEO of Welland-based Whiting Equipment Canada Inc., announces a \$1-million pledge to Brock University's Cairns Family Health and Bioscience Research Complex.

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■ HEALTH CARE: Campaign accepting sign-ups for Friday rally at Queen's Park



Terry Nicholls, secretary of the local branch of the Council of Canadians, is stressing the importance of fighting for the preservation of Welland hospital. He is pictured at Welland Farmers' Market Saturday, where a sign-up sheet was available for poole wanting to take part in Friday's bus trip to Queen's Park, where thousands of people from across Ontario while be demonstrating in support of hospital services.

Get on board to save Welland hospital

GREG FURMINGER OMI Agency Niagara

Mary Montpetit was left disappointed by the reaction at front doors when she was circulating flyers for the campaign to save Welland hospital.

Most people were disinterested. Montpetit, a mother who doesn't drive, however, is very concerned about what could happen if Welland's hospital shuts down, replaced by a new, bigger facility on Montrose Rd. in Niagara Falls.

"It's scary. We need our hospital," she said, concerned about the elderly, the ill and others like her who don't have a licence or vehicle to get to emergency care.

Montpetit was at Welland Farmers' Market Saturday morning drumming up support for a bus trip to Queen's Park this coming Friday, where Welland hospital boosters will assemble with an anticipated field of 10,000 Ontarians worried, too, about hospital cuts and closures in their communities.

Terry Nicholls, secretary of the south Niagara unit of Council of Canadians, called the trip "Action I" of the Save Welland Hospital campaign.

"It's just insane that we won't have a hospital here," he said. The provincial government is spend-

ing millions of dollars to look into the Nlagara Falls site that would also replace hospitals in Port Colborne, Fort Erie, Niagara Falls and Niagara-on-the-Lake, but so far has not committed to building a new hospital for "south Niagara."

If needed, a second bus will be chartered to leave from the market square at 9 a.m. on the day of the Toronto rally. The Welland trip has financial support from Nicholl's' council plus Niagara Regional Labour Council, Ontario Health Coall-

GET ON THE BUS

The coach bus — a second if needed — will leave the Welland market Friday at 9 a.m., arriving at Queen's Park for the noon rally. Buses leave Toronto at 2:30 p.m. to

return to the market. To sign up, contact Niagara Health Coalition co-chair Sue Hotte at 905-932-1646 or e-mail suehotte@yahoo.ca.

tion and Nlagara Health Coalition.
In a sea of other demonstrators,

In a sea of other demonstrators, Nicholls said he hopes that everyone representing Welland Friday will have brought placards with them that show support and need for the Rose City hosnial

He said residents need to be more involved.
"I think people have lost confidence in

political leadership, which is why this has to be a citizen movement."

Earlier this month, more than a hundred people packed Welland's civic square to learn more about the grass more effort.

It was there that Ontario Health Coalition's Natalie Mehra said that in her 14 years with the organization she has never seen an area where cuts are as severe as those proposed for Niagara. Including Welland's population and catchment areas, close to 100,000 people rely on the Welland Hospital.

"Nowhere in this country are they closing hospitals in towns of 50,000 people. It's unheard of. It's completely unacceptable," she said.

> greg.furminger@sunmedia.ca Twitter; @GregAtTheTrib

Is Niagara falling behind?

RAY SPITERI

QMI Agency Niagara
Recent trips to Pittsburgh
and Hamilton for Niagara Falls
Mayor Jim Diodati and St.
Catharines Mayor-elect Walter Sendzik highlighted how faul
along those cities' economies

have come and how far behind Niagara is. "They've gone from rustbelt to renalssance," Diodati says of Pittsburgh, a city he toured with

their Mayor Bill Peduto.

"They realized opening up the mills again was not the answer. Those jobs left permanently. They had to reinvent themselves and they have."

It starts to become clear hearing Diodati describe his trip to Pittsburgh as to why he continues to beat the drum for a university campus in downtown Niapara Falls.

"(Pittsburgh) merged education with economic development and entrepreneuship. They incubated opportunity through light manufacturing. They utilized and expanded their universities. Through this re-gentrification and bold, new direction, they have been able to attract more educa-

tional opportunities and emerging technologies."

Diodati says that sort of revitalization could happen in Niagara, which has "a lot of geo-

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graphic strength."

"Pittsburgh proper is not that
big (about 306,000 people versus about 427,000 in Niagara).

yet you can see ... new high rises, new buildings going up. They chose not to chase the opportunities that left, but to create new opportunities."

Sendzik, who was also in Pittsburgh last December with his wife and kids, says they came away with a "great appreciation of both how far along Pittsburgh is and how far behind we are."

Sendzik had that same feeling when he was driving through Hamilton and its downtown area this week.

Much like its Steel City counterpart in the U.S., Sendzik saw how investments in downtown infrastructure and rail lines were

paying off in Hamilton.

"We have to get our act together (in Niagara)," he says.

"Niagara Falls, St. Catharines and Welland — all of Niagara—we have to work very closely together, we have to support

each other"

He says the "big economic

drivers of the past" will not be the answer moving forward and Niagara politicians have to "put in place fundamental plans with targets and deadlines. "We have to measure every-

thing we do and be on the same page. We can't be pulling apart the fabric of things."

Sendzik says Hamilton, which is a centre of bio science and health science, is "eight years ahead of us," while Niagara is "probably 15 years behind" Kitchener-Waterloo, which, he

adds, has one, integrated municipal transit system and an innovative educational hub.

"The truisms are all around us. If we don't get our act together today, we're going to

fall further behind."

Sendzik says it's time Niagara markets itself as one economy—

mone investment-ready community with a complete package of assets.

"If Niagara Falls gets a sig- "When you're trying to

nificant investment, we should celebrate that. Same goes for if we land a new business. Every time a significant new business opens in Niagara, all the mayors should be there?"

opens in Niagara, all the mayors should be there." Diodati describes Niagara's makeup as a bicycle wheel that

has "a lot of spokes.
"We're all connected. A good
portion of GM workers (in St.
Catharines) are from Niagara
Falls and a good portion of our
casino workers are from St.
Catharines. That's why every

part of the region is important."
Welland Mayor-elect Frank
Campion says while a regional
mindset is "very important,"
there will always be parochialism, especially among mayors

who are elected to represent their respective communities. "In general, what's good for the region is good for the municipalities, but there's always a bit of a ruffle there" he says.

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increase your tax base, you're trying to encourage development within your city boundaries."

Campion says Welland should "make our assets work for us," such as the Welland Canal, which he describes as an "underutilized" asset.

Campion says he believes there's "definitely" an opportunity for a renaissance in Niagara, particularly in Welland. "We just have to rethink how

"We just have to rethink how and what we're trying to achieve, that's why I want to bring a more business-like approach to council decisions.

"We can enhance the types of manufacturing that we have by utilizing our (Community Improvement Plans) and by providing incentives and grants to help make us attractive, as opposed to going to the U.S."

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High-flying start to Winter Festival of Lights

QMI Agency Niagara

The thundering falls were overshadowed for a short while Saturday as a team of acrobats performed gravity-defying feats of balance and agility before an enthusiastic crowd to kick off the Ontario Power Generation Winter Festival of Lights.
"How do they do that?"

asked Olivia Marchese as the eight-year-old Niagara Falls girl watched in wonder as an acrobat swing from a hoop suspended above a stage.

"I'm good at gymnastics

and even I can't do that."

Members of Zero Gravity Circus were the main attraction at the ceremony at Queen Victoria Park to mark the beginning of the 32nd annual festival.

"This is an added experience for us," said John Ngoc, of South Korea, who came across the ceremony while he and his wife were walking along the parkway to view the falls.

to view the falls.

"It's amazing to see."

After the show, there was a Flip the Switch ceremony to illuminate millions of tree and ground lights followed by a fireworks dis-

play over the falls.

"Every year, Niagara Falls is transformed into a magical landscape of snow, ice, thundering waters and beautiful lights," said Janice Thomson, chair of Niagara Parks Commission, one of the festival's founding

She said the agency invested \$300,000 this year on new lighting, programming and infrastructure to "support our winter plans and that of the festival well

New this year is the addiay tion of 13 Canadian wildlife illuminations and a seven-metre-tall illuminaas tion designed to resemble y a water fountain at Duf-

ferin Islands.
There is also a large illuminated water feature in the middle of the pond and the trees are lit in projection lighting that changes colours in sync

with music.

The festival attracts 1.5 million visitors each year.

Continued on next page ONLAGENCY NUGARA

Members of Zero Gravity Circus were the main attraction at Queen Victoria Park on Saturday as the Ontario Power Generation Winter Festival of Lights



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■ WINTER FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS



High-flying start to Winter Festival of Lights

"The festival represents our collective efforts to promote and position Niagara as a tremendous major winter destination for visitors from around the world," Thomson said of the various agencles and businesses that are involved in the festival.

Lights has received a number of awards over the years including being named one of the World's Most Extravagant Christmas Light Displays by CNTraveler.com and an Ontario Event of Distinction by Festivals & Events Ontario.

WINTER FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS to 26, 31, Jan. 2 and 9.

■ Nov. 15 to Jan. 12 Zero Gravity Circus at Queen Victoria Park: Shows run from 6 to 9 p.m. on Nov. 21, 22, 23, 28, 29; Dec. 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, and 26 through 29; and Jan. 2 to 4, and 9 to 11.

■ Screening Dec. 16 of Teenage Mutant Ninia Turties movie at the Ripley's Moving Theatre. ■ New Year's Eve Niapara Falls: Queen Victoria Park. Performers to be announced.

Fireworks over the Falls: A full lineup of events can be Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 22 found at www.wfol.com

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NATHAN CHAMBERLAND



Niagara Falls composer Nathan Chamberland wrote an eight and a half minute score that will be matched with the light displays at Dufferin Islands. This will give the park a musical component to go with several new attractions at the upcoming 2014 Winter Festival of Lights in Niagara Falls.

Composer fine tunes Winter Festival of Lights

JOHN LAW OMI Agency Niagara

You're going to hear a lot of Niagara Falls composer Nathan Chamberland at the upcoming Winter Festival of Lights. Over and over again.

An eight and a half minute score Chamberland wrote will be matched with the light displays at Dufferin Islands, giving the park a musical component to go with several new attractions.

Chamberland, a veteran musician who ran the Niagara Music Awards for two years, says his name was suggested to festival organizers who were looking for a local artist to create the score.

"They wanted to hire a Niagara Falls

resident instead of going somewhere else," he says. "They contacted me and said, "Would you submit some stuff?" i did, and they said, 'This is great, could you compose eight and a half minutes worth of music?"

Chambetland is no stranger to wintery music. Three years ago, he contributed the cheeky holiday tune About Christmas to a Canadian compilation CD. He also scored the sound track to the made-in-Niagara series History of a Haunting. "It's kind of my bag," he says.

"It's kind of my bag," he says.

Before he started, Chamberland
watched hours of the Trans Siberian
Orchestra, and realized "I can't do eight
and a half minutes of '80s hair metal."

Instead, he created a traditional score
— with elements of some classic tunes
— with the occasional "pop" so the lights
can do their thing.
The key, he said, was to pace things so
it's not all bis moments. "You can't have

good music that punches from beginning to end." The music will repeat on a loop

throughout the festival, which started Nov. 15 and runs to Jan. 2. Chamberland also created a three-

minute score for opening night at Queen Victoria Park. For years, John Williams' Superman score accompanied the moment the switch was thrown. Chamberland is essentially replac-

chamberiand is essentially replacing his hero. Growing up, the legendary composer's scores for Jaws, Star Wars and other classics inspired him to create his own music.

Now, he gets the big moment during a

year of huge changes for the 32-year-old festival. On opening night, he'll be in the park with his wife and two kid, listening to his music kick things off. "Not many people can say they did

john.law@sunmedia.ca



QMI Agency Niagara

Winter's chill has arrived, which means Niagara theatre is warming up. Two new shows opened last week-

end, bringing some holiday cheer and a French farce to stages.

In St. Catharines, Garden City Productions wraps up its 2014 season with Irving Berlin's White Christmas. The stage version of the 1954 movie opened in 2004, and while it wasn't a critical favourite (the New York Times' Charles Isherwood said it was as fresh as a "roll of Necco wafers found in a mothballed Christmas stocking"), it has been a sea-

But it's not solely a Christmas show, says director and choreographer Wendy Leard. In fact, White Christmas is about the only well-known holiday tune in it. "It contains some of Irving Berlin's

best music," she says. "Blue Skies. I Love a Plano, Love You Didn't Do Right By Me I think White Christmas is the only Christmas song in the show." Don't expect a bunch of cheesy car-

ols pandering to the crowd. The musical sticks to the film's story about two Second World War army buddies who perform in nightclubs after the war, and the two sis-

ters who eventually perform with them. "It's not a show about Christmas," says Leard, "It's a show about people helping people, about love."

The film was based on the 1942 musical Holiday Inn. which is actually where Bing Crosby's song White Christmas first appeared.

The Garden City Productions version, which opened Saturday, stars Dean Christopher, Lynn Farquharson, Ian Harte and Samantha Marchionda. The full 33-member cast is joined by a 16-niece orchestra.

It is the first Garden City show since the death of longtime company director

Diane Nyland Proctor in October. "She was a major part of Garden City Productions for a long time. When we went to her memorial in Toronto, it was a

Meanwhile down the OEW, Garrison Little Theatre in Fort Erie launched its

BOEING BOEING

WHERE: Italo-Canadian Club, 1101 DiPietro St., Fort Erie WHEN: Until Nov. 22 TICKETS: \$35 with dinner, matinee \$24.50, 905-991-8181 or www. garrisonlittletheatre.com

WHITE CHRISTMAS

WHERE: Ridley College Mandeville Theatre, 2 Ridley Rd., St. Catharines WHEN: Until Nov. 30 TICKETS: \$28 adults, \$23 students. 905-682-1353 or www.gcp.ca

29th season with Marc Camoletti's spirited French farce Boeing Boeing. Listed in the Guinness Book of Records as the world's most-performed French

play, it opened in London's West End in 1962 and has been an enduring hit ever Director Derek Joynes had been itch-

ing to bring the show to Fort Erie for two years, but the rights weren't available.

"Once word got out that it had been revived and modernized to some extent. we thought it would be the right sort of thing for us to do," says Joynes, who performed in the comedy in Georgetown in the early 1970s

The fast-paced show follows an American architect juggling three flancées at once, all of them flight attendants with different airlines. But when a new hightech Boeing messes with his schedule, all three women are in town, in the same apartment

'We find with dinner theatre, once somebody's had a full meal and bottle of wine, they don't want anything too serious," says Joynes, "They want to be entertained, and that's really what we do."

The show stars Garrison regulars Darka Makarec, James Reid and Lily Grouix along with newcomers Bruce Davenport. Edie Pederson and Margaret Gleeson.

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REVIEW The Standard THE TRIBUNE





#TRENDING

Niagara video-game industry expanding

They're like the last graduating class of a high school that has closed its doors

When Silicon Knights closed three years ago, the hundred or so programmers and artists working at the St. Catharines video-game company's expansive 1 St. Paul St.

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office said goodbye and headed their separate way

But in the cycle of video-game development, three years is just long enough for those laid off employees to launch their own companies and start getting their first games off the ground.

A few hallways away from where Silicon Knights once stood tall as a pillar of the Canadian video-game industry, two newer companies - albeit much smaller - are now set to launch their own

Rollers of the Realm, produced

by Phantom Compass, goes on sale for the Sony Playstation 4 and other platforms Tuesday. Earlier this week, Sony announced it was picking up Pixel-NAUT's debut game, Lost Orbit, for the PS4 in early 2015.

Most of the employees for the two companies used to work with Silicon Knights, but the social network formed by the former company stretches much

"Being such a big company, you work with a lot of people and when something disintegrates like that, all of those

people have to go somewhere," said PixelNAUTS co-founder Chris Iacobucci, "I feel like we know people in the industry not just in Ontario, but all over the world."

Ericka Evans, the head production for Phantom Compass, said video-game companies tend to work together more than other industries.

'My perspective is you can't look at anybody as your competition or you would have to look at everybody as your competition," she said. "There's so much to gain by working together, especially in building up the region."

PixelNAUTS has five employees while Phantom Compass has six in St. Catharines and another four working across southern Ontario. Unlike Silicon Knights, which took up three floors of 1 St. Paul St. at its peak, the two new companies have small, single-room office space inside Innovate Niagara's the Generator at One, a digital media business incubator. Also working from one of the

Innovate Niagara offices is Creative Bytes.

"Some of our friends are a little bit bigger than us, but it changed a while back It used to be that you had to have a 60to 100-person team and a \$15 million budget to produce games at \$60 each,"

said Iacobucci. Now, he said, there's a big market for games ranging from \$1 up to \$20.

"Once that market started to appear, it allowed small shops like us to exist," he Games like Lost Orbit cost a few hun-

dred thousand dollars to make and digital media funding through the Ontario government covers about half the amount if everyone hired to work on the project is living in the province.

It has allowed the local video-game market to explode.

"It's bringing a lot of jobs here, too, so it's pretty amazing," Golebiowski said of the funding Evans said Rollers of the Realm started

out as a "portfolio project" to help 20 or so former Silicon Knights employees show the type of work they were capable of But the project took off and got funded

to make it a more widely-released game. "It's definitely the biggest project that we've worked on with the most people and the biggest budget," Evans said.

She said the fact two game studios in St. Catharines are releasing games around the same time is a "positive sign." "It shows there is a talent and there's a place for it to be fostered," she said.

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INPORT NEWS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2014

LOCALNEWS

Port High tours Thurston Machine



Port Colborne High School continued to expand its strong partnership with the local manufacturing industry with two tours of local manufacturing plants. Pictured, the students involved in the tour listen to Mark Nevar, Thurston Machine Division manager, as he goes over the blueprint for a frame used by Air France for testing \$11-million jet engines.

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Tragically Hip, Niagara business in wine duet

OMI Agency Niagara

The Tragically Hip hope their new VQA brand will hit all the right notes for wine lovers. This month, a limited edition wine

was launched to celebrate their landmark Fully Completely album, released in 1992

The label of the same name is a collaboration with Stoney Ridge Estate Winery in Vineland for a premium grand reserve red wine. Its release commemorates the Cana-

dian band's announcement of the rerelease of Fully Completely and a 2015 North American tour that will include a stop in St. Catharines. Stoney Ridge Estate Winery presi-

dent Barry Katzman said the partnership started with a call from the band's manager, Bernie Green, about a vear

"They were looking at things they could do in conjunction with the rerelease and the tour," said Katzman.

a wine ... and were looking for a midsized winery that could handle some volume but still have a high-end boutique feel to it," he said.

Stoney Ridge itself was founded in 1985 and purchased in 2013 by Canadian TV and radio broadcaster Bob McCown of the Fan 590 and Sportsnet. Katzman said that helped speed up the

collaboration The wine was co-created by band members Gord Downie, Paul Langlois, Rob Baker, Gord Sinclair and Johnny Fay, along with Stoney Ridge head

winemaker Jeff Hundertmark. "The guys are wine aficionados," said Katzman. "They're collectors, wine drinkers, and have watched with interest as the Ontario and Niagara industry has grown," he said.

The blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Cabernet Franc comes from the 2012 vintage and is a Bordeaux-style reserve red that sells for \$25 a bottle

a replication of the striking art-

work that appeared on the Fully Completely album cover. "In just 24 hours, we've been inundated by sales." Katz-

We've already sold more than 2,400 bottles. The wine will be available at

Killaly St. W. & Steele St

PORT COLBORNE

Stoney Ridge's retail store in Vineland, direct to Ontario bars man said. "I've been in many and restaurants, and via online of these types of launches and sales through the band's web-

com

Distribution negotiations are underway with the LBCO and other provincial liquor author-

don.fraser@sunmedia.ca





produced in conjunction with Stoney Ridge Estate Winery in Vineland.

Lady Antebellum play Fallsview in February

Country chart topper Lady Antebellum are headed to Niagara Fallsview Casino Resort in February.

The Nashville trio is one country music's most popular acts of the past decade with nine No. 1 Billboard country singles. Their signature tune, Need You Now, spent five weeks atop the chart in 2009 and was a No. 2 pop single. They've won seven Grammy Awards, including for record and song of the year in 2011. The group's sixth album, 747, was

released in September.

They'll play two shows at the casino's Avalon Ballroom, Feb. 16 and 17. Tickets ctart at \$05

Fallsview's February lineup also includes Tony Orlando Feb. 20 and 21, comedians Rita Rudner and Louie Anderson Feb. 19, Air Supply Feb. 26 to 28. I Tenori Feb. 11 to 15, and Ricky Nelson Remembered Feb. 3 to 7

Tickets for all February shows are on sale at the casino box office and all Ticketmaster outlets, 1-877-833-3119 or www.ticketmaster.ca.

Meth bust in Port Colborne A 52-year-old Port Colborne man has

been arrested after police seized more than \$800 worth of crystal meth. Niagara Regional Police had been

investigating allegations that a man was dealing drugs in the city's East Village community. An arrest was made Nov. 12. Christopher Brown is charged with

possession of a controlled substance for the purpose of trafficking. He was given a future court date and released on an officer in charge promise to appear.



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Another fight for veterans

OMI Agency Niagara

When Niagara resident lames Scott came home after serving three years in Bosnia, he didn't expect to be treated like a hero

He also didn't expect to be nearly home-Scott, who was in Bosnia from 1991 to

1993, split from his wife and "spent a few years couch surfing with friends: As he struggled to get back on his feet, Scott said Royal Canadian Legion Branch 479 in

Niagara Falls was there for him. "They brought me food when I needed it, they took care of some of my bills, they brought me in, I'm now sergeant-at-arms there. I've also had a lot of help from Veterans Affairs*

According to the legion, there are approximately 35 homeless veterans in Niagara. "At times, it's still hard for me," says Scott, "I have good days and I have bad days. It's hard for (struggling veterans) to come forward because of their own personal pride. Some of them just don't want to be helped, they just

Others might not know help is available. "I didn't know a lot about it myself until the legion came along and took care of things for me, got me pointed in the right direction. Louis Frenette, a service officer with Branch 479 who also looks after 17 legions from Grimsby to Fort Erie, says he would describe a homeless veteran as someone who is either "living under the bridges," or some-one who has "absolutely nothing left after their rent and their food is paid."

Branch 479 started looking into the issue 2 1/2 years ago and discovered there was no homeless shelter for men in Niagara Falls. "We couldn't understand why there's no homeless shelter for men, let alone veterans. I started inquiring around with the branches that we deal with, asked a few questions and

we come to find out that we have approximately 35 veterans that are homeless Frenette, who runs the Veterans Resource Centre at the Spring St. legion, says he has dealt with veterans who simply need the bare essentials to others who are

He says most of the veterans in need served in Afghanistan or are peace-time soldiers. They could be anywhere from 20 years old and up.

"Most of them have fallen through the cracks. They've given up on the government to give them a helping hand because it's so hard, some of them are tired of applying (for assistance). They've been shuffled down ... and it just gets to the point where they say, Thave had enough' and they just take off on their own! Frenette says the way he understands it,

the federal government has separate classifications for veterans when it comes to pay, depending on which conflict they've been a

"To me, the government is wrong because they're classifying war. War is war. I don't care how you look at it ... a veteran is a veteran." Frenette says he also disagrees with the federal government replacing veteran pensions with lump-sum payments.

For decades, an injured war veteran from Canada received a pension for life. But after the New Veterans Charter was implemented eight years ago, monthly disability payments were replaced with an option to get a onetime settlement

"You give a 23-year-old \$280,000 when he comes out of three tours in Afghanistan, what is he going to do?" asks Frenette. "He's going to go on the longest, the nicest vacation, he's going to come back and buy the biggest vehicle that he can possibly have and then he's going to party the rest of what's left.

"To my way of thinking, as a veteran, that's wrong. The money should be kept back, it should be involved in a fund where he can draw a monthly pension."

Veterans Affairs did not respond to specific questions related to this feature as of dead-

Instead, the ministry referred this reporter to its website (www.veterans.gc.ca), which states the government provides a tax-free disability payment of up to \$298,587 to veterans. based on the extent of their disability.

Veterans can choose between three payment options: a lump-sum payment, an annual installment over the number of years of a veteran's choosing or a combination of the two options.

Veterans may also be eligible for a number of monthly financial supports to compensate for the economic impact of an injury or illness, including a guarantee that the monthly

income of recipients will not fall below 75% of their pre-release military salary In 2011, the government enhanced the Earnings Loss Benefit to ensure a total pretax income of at least \$42,400 a year, regardless of the salary a soldier was earning while

in the Armed Forces

There are additional income supports, clothing allowances and a one-time supplementary retirement benefit, payable at age 65, "to recognize the reduced ability of injured and ill veterans to put money aside in a private pension plan.

"With these changes, our most severely injured men and women are guaranteed an annual income of at least \$61,800 a year," states the website

Veterans Affairs also has a section on its website dedicated to homeless or at-risk veterans. The website provides information related to outreach and emergency services. Those who have served in the Canadian Armed Forces looking for help can call Veterans Affairs at 1-866-522-2122.

Frenette, who served 15 years in the Armed Forces as a peace-time soldier, says "one of the saddest cases I've seen" involved a nowdeceased Niagara veteran.

The woman, who suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder, severe depression and alcoholism, sought help after she came home. While the help was there, it was far from an ideal situation for her, says Frenette.

"This lady had to go and sit in a car with four other guys. This woman had been raped in Bosnia while she was in the Armed Forces, she is dealing with that situation, now she has to drive with four men to London, as the only woman, and drive back here again, after the session.

"Could we not make arrangements to have somebody here in the Niagara Peninsula? Are we that poor that we can't make that arrangement for a veteran?"

Continued on next page

Another fight for veterans

From previous page Meanwhile, Frenette says legions across Niagara continue to work on getting a homeless shelter up and running for veterans.

A property is being looked at in Welland Legions don't pay for the bricks and

mortar component of projects, but a central fund would help pay to maintain the shelter.

"I think we would probably get five to seven units through the legions that will be available. They're self-contained, it's like a motel room. It has to be a long-term facility because we don't know how long it's going to take for (homeless veterans to become selfreliant)," says Frenette.

"This place, if it ever comes about, will have a Veterans Affairs officer on premises and they will be able to get in touch with the professionals to help out - the psychiatrist, the doctors, we have people that have volunteered their services, an RN that will be able to tend to these peoples' needs as they

Niagara Falls MP Rob Nicholson did not answer specific questions about the homeless veteran situation in Niagoro

Instead, Canada's defence minister

BY THE NUMBERS

\$298,587; Tax-free disability

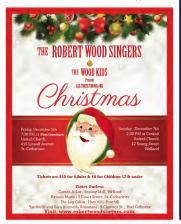
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provided a general e-mail statement. "Veterans have made countless sacrifices and built our country into the proud, strong nation we are today.

They are owed our respect and gratitude," reads the statement. Through the federal government's Homelessness Partnering Strategy, homeless Canadians can get help and permanent housing, says Nicholson.

"Veterans projects are, of course, eligible under Homelessness Partnering Strategy, and we encourage interested organizations to contact their local community entity. Additionally, the Department of Veterans Affairs has many services and benefits tailored specifically to meet the needs of Canada's veterans."

> ray.spiteri@sunmedia.ca Twitter: @RaySpiter(



LOCALNEWS



Niagara Regional Police Service

Gun Amnesty Event 2014 November 26 - 29, 2014

Surrender all unwanted guns or ammunition to the Niagara Regional Police Service.

The NRPS PAVIS Unit is conducting a gun amnesty event from November 26 to 29, 2014. The goal is to gather all unwanted ammunition, handguns, rifles, air guns or replica guns off the streets of Niagara.

For information and pickup please contact:

NRPS PAVIS Unit 289-407-2634



The NRPS PAVIS Unit is funded by the Ministry of Community Safety & Correctional Services Ontario with a goal towards keeping Niagara streets safe from violence, gun and gang activity.

STAT HOLIDAY

Legion leaders prefer Remembrance Day status quo

DON FRASER OMI Agency Niagara

Keep Remembrance Day as an organized time of reflection for a younger generation. Turning it into a paid statutory holiday in Ontario could dilute the seriousness of the

dilute the seriousness of the event. That's the view of two senior Niagara officers of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Both responded to a decision Tuesday by District School Board of Niagara trustees to send a letter to federal and provincial authorities urging the status quo for

Trustee Dalt Clark and some other trustees said school war memorial gatherings and organized activities on Nov. 11 are an important part of the Remembrance Day experience for students. "I don't believe that the

children will show up at the cenotaph if it's a paid holiday," said Jack Gemmell, Niagara zone commander of the Royal Canadian Legion, adding various legions are already involved in many school pro-

"In the schools, they are getting the understanding of what it is all about and the need to remember the veter-

ans," Gemmell said. "I fully feel they should be at school on Nov. 11." Tom Townsley, legion Branch 24 president in St.

Catharines, agrees.
"I would like to see it stay
the way it is," said Townsley. "There are many programs we've been setting up

with the schools ... if there's a school holiday, then a lot of these children are probably not going to show up (at services)" Last week, New Democrat MP Dan Harris introduced a private member's bill in Ottawa that would make Remembrance Day a national statutory holiday. A secondreading vote on the bill have been passed by MPs and it is

now in the committee stage.
The federal bill would
amend the Holidays Act to
treat Remembrance Day like
other paid, national statutory
holidays such as Canada Day.
Four provinces, including

Ontario and Quebec, do not have Remembrance Day as a paid stat holiday, and it would be up to each province to enact any new statuatory holiday legislation. St. Catharines MP Rick

Dykstra said he has worked with Harris on the bill and supports the principle of the bill.

Dykstra also notes prov-

CATHOLIC BOARD TRUSTEE WEIGHS IN

Kathy Burtnik, chair of Niagara Catholic District School Board, said options about Remembrance Day haven't been discussed at her board table. Burtnik said she hasn't otherwise given too much

thought to whether or not it should be a statutory holiday. Inces have jurisdiction over creating statuatory holidays and paid days off work.

"Our view is changing this to a legal (federal) holiday is a symbolic, albeit strong gesture," he said.

"Provinces are not obliged, but should take into consideration ... any countrywide gesture."

"Stat holidays sometimes lose their symbolism," she

"I like the status quo, where we can give it the reverence that it's due, leading up to and on Remembrance Day itself," she said

The MP said he understands the DSBN trustees'

"But taking into account the education process leading up to Remembrance Day — and the potential of these children being able to attend the services independent of being at school — is something that needs to be consid-

He said testimony during the heritage committee stage would be fully considered and could affect clause-by-clause bill recommendations.

Welland MP Malcolm Allen said he's essentially undecided on the issue.

"There are pluses to both sides of the argument. ... I'm willing to listen to folks on both sides of this issue," Allen said, adding students' participation on Nov. 11 isn't con-

sistent across all schools.

"But it is also a valid concern as to what happens (to student involvement) if it's a stat holiday," he said.

Allen feels if a statuatory holiday is declared, it should fall on whatever day Nov. 11 happens to be, rather than it becoming "just another paid holiday" that could be taken as a long weekend.



N BRI Lake swimmers' names added to rock

An updated plaque in Niagara-on-the-Lake's Queen Victoria Park has been unveiled to include two new names: Trinity Arsenault and Colleen Shields, of

Affixed to a stone erected by Solo Swims of Ontario, a park monument is dedicated to individuals who have swum the 51-kilometre crossing of Lake Ontario.

The 14-year-old Arsenault joins a list of 56 swimming notables who have conquered the Great Lake, including Marilyn Bell, Vicki Keith, and her own mother, Christine Arsenault, who completed the feat in 2011.

Arsenault was swimmer No. 55 this past summer, going from Port Dalhousie to Marilyn Bell Park in Toronto in 22 hours and 19 minutes between Aug. 3 and 4.

Shields crossed Lake Ontario on Aug. 8 and 9, a week after Trinity's swim. She completed the 51-km trek in 21 hours and 33 minutes and is the oldest person on record to

complete the swim at age 62. On June 20, Arsenault swam Lake Erie at a distance of 19 kilometres from Sturgeon Point, N.Y., to Crystal Beach.

19







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- . Cross at pedestrian crosswalks. Check for traffic before crossing.
- . Make "eve contact "with motorists or pedestrians before crossing to make sure they are stopping.
- . Obey all traffic control signs and devices.
- . Slow down when travelling around pedestrians and avoid travelling too closely.
- . Keep to the right on sidewalks and avoid honking your horn.
- . Drive your scooter straight at a ramp. Most scooters have anti tip wheels to keep
- them from tipping when doing angled manoeuvres. . Your scooter should have a safety flag, reflectors and lights in the front and back so
- you can be seen at all times. . Wearing a reflective safety vest is also a good idea and is essential if you have to travel at night.
- . Carry a cell phone and have your emergency contact information taped onto your
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City of Port Colborne Public Information Centre for

Storm Sewer System Infrastructure Needs Study, and Water Distribution System Infrastructure Needs Study

The City of Port Colborne covers an area of approximately 12.380 ha with a serviced area of 2,388 ha and a population of approximately 19,200. The City provides storm drainage and water distribution to the City's customers.

The City of Port Colborne has prepared Infrastructure Needs Studies for the Storm Sewer and the Water distribution Systems. These Studies provide a comprehensive analysis and review of the City's storm sewer and water distribution networks to identify existing and potential future deficiencies related to the two systems.

The Studies will provide the City with strategies necessary to manage the required infrastructure improvements and growth in the most effective and efficient manner. The study will also identify the individual projects required to complement



STUDY AREA

these strategies, and prioritize these projects based on need.

This Study is being conducted in accordance with the Master Plan Approach of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) process. A Public Information Centre (PIC) will be held:

Date: Monday, November 24, 2014 Time: 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Council Chambers, City Hall, 66 Charlotte Street

For further information, please contact either of the individuals listed below:

Mr. Rick Gabel, P.Eng. Project Manager Associated Engineering Suite 208, 110A Hannover Drive St. Catharines, ON L2W 1A4 Tel.: 905-346-0990 ext. 294 Email: gabelr@ae.ca

Location:

Mr. Jim Huppunen, A.Sc.T. Manager of Engineering Services City of Port Colborne 66 Charlotte Street Port Colborne, ON L3K 3C8 Tel.: 905-835-2900 ext. 221 Email: iimhuppunen@portcolborne.ca



REMEMBRANCE DAY

cenotaph in Wainfleet

'Nothing compared to what those soldiers did'

ALLAN BENNER

OMI Agency Niagara It was nearly silent in the darkness, standing guard overnight beside the new

The quiet ruffling of the flags and the rustling of wildlife among the leaves were for the most part all the sounds FCnl. Nick Loibl heard as he took up his post at the side of the monument near

the township hall. "It was truly amazing," the 14-year-old member of the 79th Lynton Davies Squadron air cadets said Tuesday, as Remembrance Day ceremonies were about to begin. "You could see the stars above your head and the nearly-full moon. It's like nothing I'd ever seen, really."

Despite the warm fall morning that greeted the cadets from Port Colborne, it was frigid overnight.

Being woken to stand guard at the cenotaph for 45 minute shifts wasn't easy. But, be said, the cold was easy to endure. considering the reason the cadets were at the cenotaph. "It's worth it because you know what

you're doing is nothing compared to what those soldiers did," Loibl said. "It's just amazing."

It was the third time be and his fellow cadets bave spent the eve of Remembrance Day standing guard at a ceno-

Each of those nights for the past two years, cadets have camped out beside the cenotaph at Port Colborne's H.H. Knoll Park, taking turns watching over the monument. This year, the 20 cadets who partici-

pated split up into two teams and held vigil overnight at both cenotaphs, said their commanding officer Joe Belansky. Compared to camping out at the Port Colborne park, Loibi said the overnight

stay in Wainfleet was luxurious. They slept overnight in the warmth of the Wainfleet fire department hall. rather than freezing in a tent at the Port

Colborne park. But the campout at H.H. Knoll this year wasn't that bad eitber, Belansky

added. He said tents were set up at the park and enclosed with tarps, and propane heaters were brought in to keep the

cadets warm. "Everybody got taken care of this year,"

Cadet Sgt. Riley Jackson, 15, described his overnight stay in Wainfleet as serene. At one point during the night, he watched quietly as a coyote scurried

across the highway, making its way along the bank of the Feeder Canal. "In the middle of the night, it's really quiet," he said. "At H.H. Knoll, you can hear the lake. But here, it's just silence." Loibl was happy to see the new cen-

otaph built in the community he calls home "They should have had this many years ago," he said.

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Cenotaph ceremony makes history

Technical glitch doesn't dampen patriotic spirit at monument's first-ever gathering

QMi Agency Niagara

It was a dream come true for Bob Cum-

He has spent most of his life as a member of Welland's Royal Canadian Legion branch 4, and led many Remembrance Day ceremonies in that time. But until now, the Wainfleet man has never been able to honour Canada's soldiers in his own community.

"My heart is three times as large as it normally is." Cummings said after leading the ceremony at the new cenotaph beside the Wainfleet township hall. I've wanted to do this for nine or 10 years."

Added Doug Wilford, who led the township's fundraising effort to build the cenotaph: "It's hard to describe the way I feel right now. There's a real sense of accomplishment and pride. I think that summarizes it all. He said he was overwhelmed by the

hundreds of Wainfleet residents and students who gathered at the new cenotaph for the ceremony — an event he described

Wainfleet Mayor April Jeffs recalled past Remembrance Days, reflecting on heroes of battles long ago and tales of "triumph

"But Remembrance Day in 2014 is very, very different," she said. "War, in definition by today's standards, has now crossed our borders. ... What started out as a monument to honour those who served decades before us also serves as a sober reminder of how precious our freedom truly is." The new cenotaph allowed Wainfleet

resident and Second World War veteran Harold Grant to finally honour his fallen comrades in his own community. Grant, 90, said the sound of exploding

mortars while fighting in Italy, France and Holland 70 years ago damaged his hearing. But he made it home alive.
"I survived the war. I had my best friend

with me," Grant said following the service. "My best friend was my machine gun." Although there is no Wainfleet chapter of the Royal Canadian Legion, legion members from other communities travelled to the township to help run the Chris Tietz came in from Simcoe to par-

ticipate, leading representatives of numerous organizations to the cenotaph to lay "I used to be a sergeant at arms in Simcoe, so I thought it would be nice to get

a wreath and bring it here," he said. "For the very first time, I thought it was really good." There was, however, one aspect of the

ceremony that didn't run with military precision - the sound system. "How come things run so perfect in practice?" Cummings asked while trying

to get The Last Post to play on the PA sys-Finally, a familiar though distorted song began emanating from the speaker but it

was O Canada, rather than the lonely sound of the bugle the crowd was expect-Since it was Canada's national anthem.

he couldn't very well turn it off on Remem-Although it was the second time O Can-

ada was played, most of the people gathered didn't seem to mind singing it again. Cummings tried a second time to play the recording of The Last Post, but again O Canada rang through the speaker. And

again, the crowd sang along despite having heard it for the third time Finally, amid a screech of feedback, the solemn opening notes of The Last Post

rang from the crackling speaker. But then, just as Cummings advised the crowd. "We'll now have a moment of silence," the blare of bagpines blasted

Following the disruption, Cummings warned the infernal machine: "Don't you

from the sound system.

But the PA system did dare, and started blaring out the sound of a piano. At that point, Cummings just shut it off. "I would ask the committee to seriously

consider fundraising for a new PA system, Cummings said.

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REMEMBRANCE DAY: Port Colborne war pilot buried on special day

Veterans, nurses at war remembered and thanked

Tribune Staff

Edward Scott was a pilot in the Second World War. On Remembrance Day, the longtime Port Colborne man was

laid to rest "I thought it was very snecial," Sandra Scott said of the Nov. 11 significance, following her grandfather's funeral

Tuesday. "The service was very good, too. They made mention a few times about it falling on

Remembrance Day." Edward Scott, a member of Port Colborne's Royal Cana-

dian Legion branch 56, died last Friday at Maple Park Lodge in Fort Erie at the age of 93. The recipient of many medals for his service. Scott flew

overseas missions for the Royal Canadian Air Force from 1942-46. "He told us war stories all

the time," his granddaughter A few hours before goodbyes were said to the old war pilot, fresh-faced teenagers watch at Port Colborne's cenotaph, Many thoughts turned to the 24-year-old father of one, Cpl. Nathan Cirillo, who was shot dead while performing a similar duty at Ottawa's war memorial last month.

with ceremonial rifles kept

The extra police presence at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park, as a result, didn't go unnoticed Tuesday morning.
It was at the lakeside city's

Remembrance Day ceremonies that Cirillo, shot on Oct. 22, and also 53-year-old Warrant Officer Patrice Vincent, who had died two days earlier after he and another soldier were run down in Saint-Jean-Sur-Richelieu southeast of

Montreal, were both remem-"The Nov. 11 ceremony is always a poignant day, Welland MP Malcolm Allen said at Port Colborne's day of remembrance. "To me, this day is extremely

bered.

ignificant." Roughly 500 people turned out under sunny skies and in unseasonably warm temperatures to participate in the Nov.

A flypast by a Second World War-era plane ended two minutes' silence for the fallen before dozens of wreaths were

Welland MPP Cindy Forster said it is important that sacrifices made by those people who ensured Canada's freedoms is not forgotten. "We need to ensure we

remember them every day, not just on Nov. 11," she said. And, the former nurse added, it's important to remember the women who tended to the injured and dying at war, and also the women who worked in the factories at home while men were fighting over-

In the crowd were young faces, not just children sporting T-shirts and poppies but also those of the Naval League Cadet Corps' 200 Victory unit - many of its newest elementary-age kids who donned their blue uniform and white caps for the first time less than 24 hours earlier. Among the seasoned faces



Young Naval League Cadet Corps members, many who started with the 200 Victory unit only one day eralier, take part in Port Colborne's Remembrance Day ceremonies at H. H. Knoll Lakeview Park. Here, A. Rotterman shields his eyes from the bright sun as, from left, Darien Gauthier and Kato Camp and Ouinn Camp watch as wreaths are laid.

sion of Normandy on D-Day,

June 6, 1944.

were veterans of the Second World War, the Korean War and of Canadian peacekeeping missions.

Ninety-year-old John Feduck, topped with his red beret, was given special recognition and applause.

Feduck was recently named "As a community." Mayor as a knight of the National Vance Badawey said in Order of the Legion of Honour addressing all veterans, "we in France for his First Canaremember how important it is dian Parachute Battalion partoday to say thank you." ticipation in the Allied inva-

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Council to meet less often

Wainfleet councillors will be seeing less of each other. Aldermen decided to change council's Tuesday night meeting schedule to once every three weeks, instead of continuing to meet the second

and fourth Tuesday of the

The change requires final council approval at its last meeting of this term, Nov. 25. The incoming council - only

one alderman is new - will be sworn in at a ceremonial meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 16. Its first business meeting. under the new schedule, will be Jan. 6, followed by Jan. 27, Feb.

Township staff feels the meeting change will allow more time for staff to prepare reports and implement council decisions between meetings. and will result in meetings that are about the same length as one another. "Sometimes were here for

17 and so on, for a total of 17

regular meetings in 2015.

three hours, sometimes were here for just 45 minutes," CAO Scott Luev said. He said there will be only very minor cost savings as a result of fewer meetings, such as on staff hours and utility

Township nets \$13,100 in permit fees

Wainfleet collected \$13,108 through building permit fees for the month of September, a report presented to township

council this week shows. The permits were issued for 14 projects representing \$577,900 worth of construction and demolitions. The projects also included one home build

and three garages.



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INDUSTRIAL WIND TURBINES

Green energy project gets green light

Niagara Region Wind Corp. to proceed with 77 towers

DAN DAKIN OMI Agency Niagara

The company planning to build one of Canada's largest industrial wind turbine farms in Niagara has been given the approval to move forward.

Niagara Region Wind Corp. said last Wednesday It is on track to build its 77-turbine wind farm in Niagara region and Haldimand county, after the Ministry of the Environment issued its Renewable Energy Approval the previous week.

The turbines being installed — the majority to be located in West Lincoln — are some of the largest available at three megawatts each. The total development has a capacity of 230 MW, enough to nower 70,000 homes and make it the

fifth-largest wind farm in North America. "The is confirmation of all the work we've done over the past seven and a half years," said Mery Croghan, CEO of

NRWC.

But while the REA is one big hurdle, the private company is still a number of steps away from being able to start con-

steps away from being able to start construction.
"We're moving forward with our very detailed construction design plans," Crophan said. "We're cetting into the real

micro detailing of the project."
NRWG is now in a 15-day holding
period during which the public can submit objections on the R&A approval. A
panel would then decide if the approval
should be heard before an environmental review tribunal, similar to an appeals
court, to which the company would have
to argue its case to move forward with the

At least one group, Mothers Against Wind Turbines, confirmed it plans to appeal.

appeal.

"The reason for the appeal is to protect
children and families in our communities against the wind turbine emissions,"
said Linda Rogers, who sits on the Moth-

ers Against Wind Turbines board.

In an NRWC news release, Croghan said the project would create more than 700 jobs during construction and that more than \$130 million would be spent

locally.

After the company issued its release, Niagara West-Glanbrook MPP Tim Hudak, who has publicly opposed the project, said be would continue to fight against the Green Energy Act and the turbine developments it allows.

"I'm going to keep fighting this project," he said in an e-mail to QMI Agency Niagara. "It is not in the interest of local residents to have among the tallest wind farms forced into their backyards with no local say, nor does it help seniors, families and businesses who are now paying among the most expensive

hydro bills in North America."
Hudak said he has proposed a moratorium on the development of "any more heavily-subsidized wind energy projects" as part of a bigger affordable energy plan.

West Lincoln Mayor Doug Joyner was also disappointed to hear the project got

"Regardless of what position you have on wind farms, many West Lincoln residents, and many Ontario residents, stillbelieve that the action of the provincial government to take away the rights of municipalities through the Green Bnergy Act is very disappointing and fundamentally wrong," he said, adding that West Lincoln has declared itself an "unwilling host" to industrial wind farms.

"Council and many residents truly believe that (wind) farms should be directed to willing host communities,"

Joyner called the combination of the REA approval and last week's Health Canada study effectively backing the argument of the wind turbine developers a "double whammy."

But Croghan said he sees the Health Canada report as confirmation of its own studies. "It should be more confirmation for

the public that a third party did studies. They should feel comfortable knowing that what we've said in our REA and what the MOE has approved, is factual," he said

Rogers, however, said that study doesn't tell the whole story.

"The study is not complete. What has been issue are preliminary statements. There is a lot of criticism about those statements," she said. "The (NRWC) project as currently approved will cause harm. The main mechanism will be noise. These are some of the largest wind turbines that have been sited in Ontario. The government knows there's a problem." A big problem."

dan.dakin@sunmedia.ca Twitter:@dandakinmedia

ONE NIGHT ONLY!

Ed Sullivan's "Rockin' Christmas" Comes to Roselawn Theatre

Fans of 1950's Rock & Roll will be "Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree" when "Ed Sultivan's Rockin' Christmas" comes to the Rosekin' Theatre in Port Colborne on Sunday December 7 for a special matinee performance at 2,00 p.m. This unique theatrical show is a furn-filled combination of music and comedy and stars the hillarious Jeff Brown as Ed Sultivan, in addition to international touring artist Jeff Giles, the amazing 'Man in Black' Jim Yorfdo, and award-winning songstress LoraLee McGuirl from Soctland.

The musical portion of this "Really Big Show" features a toe-tapping mixture of 1950's Rock & Roll classics combined with Christmas favourites performed by top-notch tributes to Paul Anka, Brenda Lee, Buddy Holly and the Everly Brothers. Song highlights include "Peggy Sue" "Ring of Fire" "Diana" "Jingle Bell Rock" "Bye Bye Love" "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" "Lipstick on Your Collar" and "Blue Christmas" amongst the many favourites. As a bonus, the all-star cast of "Ed Sullivan's Rockin' Christmas" will also perform hits from Jerry Lee Lewis and Ritchie Valens.



91.7 Giant-FM disc jockey stars as the hilarious Ed Sullivan, coming to the Roselawn Theatre on Sunday December 7.

Tickets to see the "Ed Sullivan's Rockin' Christmas" at the Roselawn Theatre on Sunday December 7 at 2:00 p.m. are on sale now, value-priced at only \$29. Tickets are available by phone at 905-834-7572, or pick-up at the theatre box office at 296 Fielden Avenue. Don't miss this "Really BIG Show!"



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ROYAL AGRICULTURAL WINTER FAIR



The Ontario Equestrian Federation recognized four equestrians for their contributions to the sport, with a special awards ceremony Wednesday at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. Here, award sponsor Sara Runnalls of BFL Canada presents Port Colborne's Rose Cook with the Yoong Collard Award.

Port Colborne equestrian gets nod for contributions to sport

Tribune Staff

A Port Colborne woman is among four equestrians who were recognized for their contributions to the sport during an awards ceremony at the Royal Agricultural Winter

Rose Cook was presented the Yvonne Collard Award. The local woman travels to various equestrian events where she introduces her horses to the public. She spends hours talking with people and sharing the history of the Newfoundland Pony and Canadian Horse. Cook is a champion for the preservation of these breeds, which are an integral part of Canada's history and culture. Other recipients were Barb

King of Kendal, Ont., who received the OEF Sponsor of the Year award; Liz Brown of Toronto, presented the 2014 Media of the Year Award; and Margie Gayford of Sharon, Ont., presented with the MH Lessard Coach of the Year

"These individuals selflessly contribute so much to the horse community," OEF president Allan Ehrlick said in a news release. "We are very grateful for all that they do and hope they inspire others to strive to make a difference."





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Note: Packages will be available for pick-up starting Tuesday November 18th.

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